APPENDIX

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-10, 12, 14-50 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims as follows:

11. (Amended) [The] A purified polynucleotide, comprising an [of claim 10 which contains at least one] Open Reading Frame [(ORF)] contained within SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the polynucleotide is selected from:

(a) nucleotide 1,695,944 through nucleotide 1,696,441 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(b) nucleotide 1,696,728 through nucleotide 1,697,420 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(c) nucleotide 1,698,096 through nucleotide 1,699,892 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(d) nucleotide 1,700,210 through nucleotide 1,701,088 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(e) nucleotide 1,701,293 through nucleotide 1,702,588 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(f) nucleotide 1,703,072 through nucleotide 1,704,091 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(g) nucleotide 1,704,091 through nucleotide 1,705,056 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

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(h) nucleotide 1,705,056 through nucleotide 1,705,784 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(i) nucleotide 1,705,808 through nucleotide 1,706,593 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(j) nucleotide 1,706,631 through nucleotide 1,707,524 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome; or

(k) nucleotide 1,707,530 through nucleotide 1,708,648 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome.

13. (Amended) [The] A purified polynucleotide [of claim 11, wherein said polynucleotide is] selected from [the group consisting of]:

a) a polynucleotide comprising at least 8 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the polynucleotide is present in the genome of *M. tuberculosis* but absent from the genome of *M. bovis*;

b) a polynucleotide having a sequence fully complementary to SEQ ID NO:1; and

c) a polynucleotide that hybridizes under stringent hybridization conditions with the polynucleotide defined in a) or with the polynucleotide defined in b).

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